



NEWS RELEASE

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SBA APPOINTS RICHARD SPENCE AS LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Small Business Administration has announced the appointment of Richard Spence as assistant administrator for the Office of Congressional and Legislative affairs at the SBA.

Spence is charged with overseeing agency legislative initiatives and coordinating all interaction with Congress and the Executive branch for the SBA.

SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto welcomed Spence's appointment, saying: "Richard is a strong addition to the SBA management team, and I feel fortunate to have him on my senior staff. His experience in the legislative process and his background in a family-owned small business will be invaluable as we work with Congress and the Administration to really help small businesses across the country."

Spence added: "I am looking forward to this new challenge. I am particularly eager to work with the Congress to find ways to make the SBA more relevant to a much greater subset of small businesses throughout our nation."

A native of Houston, Spence spent the past decade as co-owner of the Post Oak Pharmacy group, Texas' largest independent pharmacy. While at Post Oak, he developed several innovative partnerships with large corporations to provide individualized health-care services for their staff and clients, earning local distinction among small business groups.

He was a founding member of the Uptown Houston Merchants Association, and involved in several charitable groups. In 2000, he joined Fred Meyer on the Republican National Committee, Victory2000 Finance Team in Washington, D.C. He also worked for the Committee on the 1988 Bush-Quayle campaign, Victory '92 in Washington, D.C., and was deputy director of the Committee on Transportation for the 1992 Republican National Convention in Houston.

Spence is a 1991 graduate of Washington & Lee University, in Lexington, Va. He lives in Alexandria, Va., with his black lab, "Buddy."

For more information about all of the SBA's programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800-U-ASK-SBA or TDD 704-344-6640. Also, visit the SBA's extensive Web site at www.sba.gov.

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